

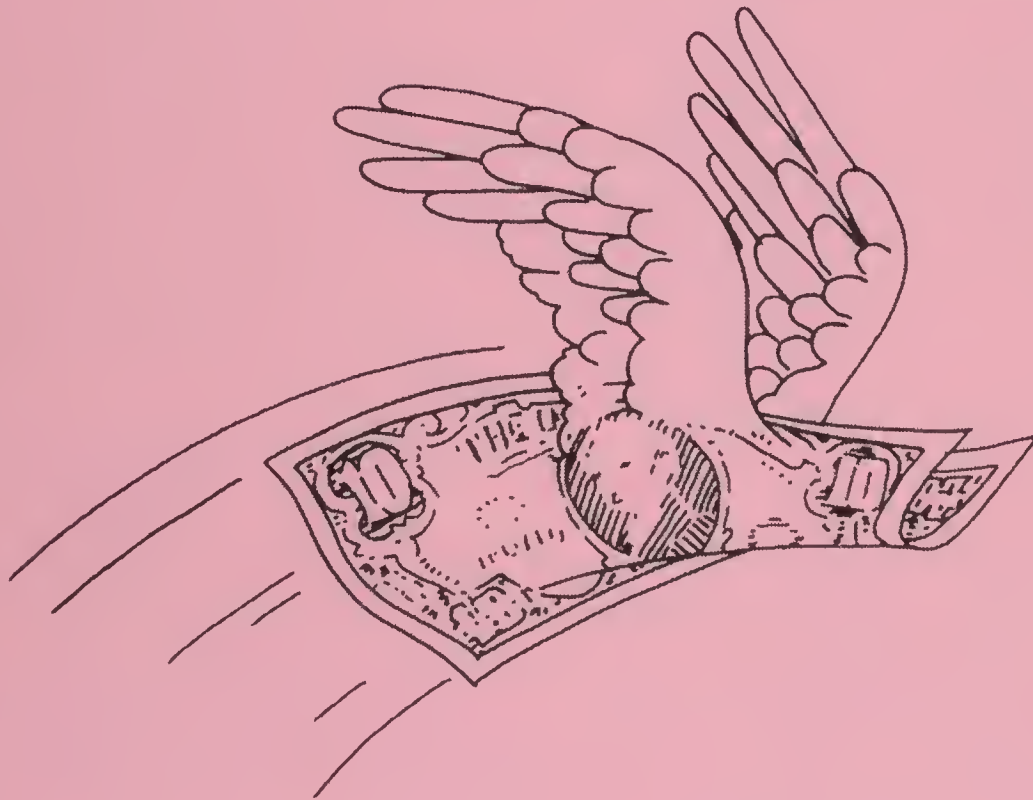


Numismatists of Wisconsin

N.O.W. News

Vol. 46 No. 1

Spring 2008



Try to live within your income so you can afford to pay taxes to a government that can't live within its income.

— Robert Half

Numismatists of Wisconsin

is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock nonprofit tax exempt corporation.

Contributions are tax deductible

The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$10 per year and entitles participants to NOW News, this quarterly publication. Among the services offered are coin authentication, a Speaker's Bureau, show calendar coordination and guidelines to assist coin clubs hosting the annual NOW convention.



**Don't Miss the
Spring Shows**

Spring 2008

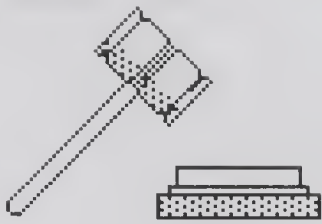
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NOW News Deadlines

February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1



President's Message

by Thad Streeter

Happy New Year Numismatists of Wisconsin!

2007 has set behind us and 2008 is dawning. The great thing about a new year is that the collecting cycle starts all over again. Coin club meetings start anew with new and enthusiastic officers, the Mints offer the latest and greatest products and once we are shoveled out and thawed out, the local coin shows start up again too.

Don't take your local shows for granted. There is a lot of work by dedicated club members that go into making them tick. The jobs range anywhere from renting the hall to mailing out dealer contracts to setting the floor plan to coordinating the advertising to staffing the club tables. I could go on, but I think that you get the point. Coin shows take a lot of work and before you know it, show day is over and everybody is exhausted.

As nice and impressive as the larger shows are, ANA in Milwaukee last year as an example, the local shows are where the collectors go to year-after-year. Granted, you may not see a 1913 Liberty nickel, but you usually will see displays presented by collectors that are just as proud of what they own and you'll have the opportunity to establish relationships with dealers and collectors that can benefit you for your lifetime.

So, enjoy your local show and drive a few miles when you have the chance to see what other clubs are putting on and expand your horizons a bit. I do believe that you will find it to be time well spent.

Until next time, I shall remain yours in Numismatics... heck, I'll probably see you at the show!

Thad

Celebrate NOW's 48th Anniversary and Enjoy a Day in Iola

A special 48th anniversary event has been scheduled for the Numismatists of Wisconsin on May 16-17 in Iola, Wisconsin. Founded in 1960 by Chester Krause, this organization's event will feature a bourse sales area and a range of educational programs on Saturday, May 17th.

The event will take place in the Iola Old Car Show Activity Center Building.

The bourse will be open to the public from 1-6 pm on Friday and 9:00-6:00 p.m. on Saturday.

The focus of the event will be a fun and relaxing weekend, so plan on coming to Iola... have a good time and take advantage of buying, selling and trading coins, paper money, tokens and medals... plus renewing friendships.

For those so inclined, such diversions as golf and fishing can be arranged.

* * *

NOW Board Meeting Postponed

An Interim NOW Board meeting was scheduled for February 17th at the Oshkosh Coin Show. The meeting was cancelled by President Streeter because of the severe winter storm throughout Wisconsin on Sunday.

The Board meeting is rescheduled for 11:00 a.m. on March 2nd at the Madison Coin Show. The show location is 706 Nolan Drive, Madison.

**Join Us For
NOW's 48th Anniversary
May 16-17**



NOW will be returning to Iola where it convened for very enjoyable and successful events in 2000, 2002 and 2005. NOW was founded on July 10, 1960 during an Open House hosted by Chet Krause to unveil the expansion which had recently been completed to serve the growing needs of Numismatic News.

This year's event will celebrate NOW's 48th Anniversary and will be a relaxing weekend for the hobby community.

When: May 16-17, 2008

Where: Iola Old Car Show Activity Center Building, adjacent to the Krause Publications facilities at 700 East State Street in Iola.

Hours: Bourse open to the public
Friday, 1-6 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Admission: Free

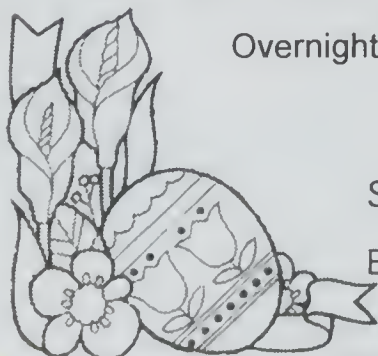
Featuring:

- dealers from Wisconsin & neighboring states;
- Boy Scouts Coin Merit Badge Clinic;
- Nostalgic program recalling NOW's founding by Chet Krause and fellow founding member, Gene Johnson, the organization's longest serving board member and officer.
- Krause Publications will hold a "hurt book" sale. Offerings include many numismatic and non-numismatic titles at a fraction of their cover prices.
- Friday evening Mystery Dinner

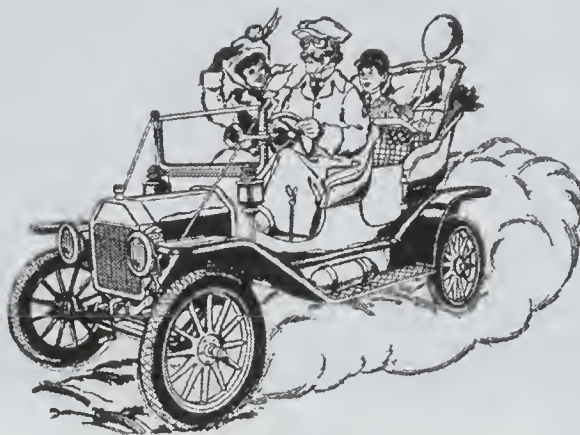
Overnight Accommodations: Village Inn Hotel, Waupaca (715-258-8526)
ask for special NOW 48th anniversary rates.
(Code: **NOW 48**)

Show Chm. Clifford Mishler 715-445-5050

Bourse Chm. Joel Edler 715-445-4080



Come & Enjoy A Mystery Dinner In Iola



All NOW members and friends are invited to partake of the Numismatists of Wisconsin's unusual and enjoyable annual "Mystery Dinner" on Friday evening, May 16th.

Show chairman, Clifford Mishler, promises to make this year's Mystery Dinner a truly memorable experience, which will include transportation, admission and entertainment in addition to the meal. Each attendee will also receive a very limited edition keepsake numismatic souvenir of the occasion of NOW's 48th anniversary.

The price of the evening's event will be \$30 per person or \$55 for a couple. Reservations should be directed to NOW 48th anniversary event chairman, Clifford Mishler, P.O. Box 316, Iola, WI 54945. Reservations accompanied by remittance, payable to the Numismatists of Wisconsin, will be appreciated. Or for direct requests, phone 715-445-5050, FAX 715-446-3030 or e-mail mish@athenete.net.

The annual NOW Mystery Dinner perpetuates a tradition that dates back to the early days of the organization. It originated some 40 years ago, back in the late 1960s by Menasha coin dealer and former NOW president, Richard "Dick" Anderson.

* * *

National Coin Week

April 20-26, 2008

**Exhibit at Your
Bank or Library**

Did George Washington really have false teeth made of wood?

[Wisconsin State Journal]

No, but they weren't the envy of his friends either. At least one set contained animal teeth, a tooth made of hippopotamus ivory, lead, springs and bolts.

Fortunately, folks seldom smiled in portraits of that era. Imagine how our \$1 bill would look.

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ANA News

National Coin Week April 20-26

Each year during the 3rd week of April the American Numismatic Association celebrates National Coin Week with exhibits, presentations and other activities at civic centers, libraries, banks and schools to let the world know about the joys of collecting and studying coins, bank notes and other forms of money.

“Money Makes the World Go Round” is the theme for this year’s National Coin Week celebration. The theme recognizes the importance of world unity and the role children and numismatics play in achieving it.

Members of local coin clubs are encouraged to prepare a numismatic exhibit and display it during the week of April 20-26th at your local bank or library. Even a short talk about coins at your local school may entice students to start looking thru coins or collecting state quarters.

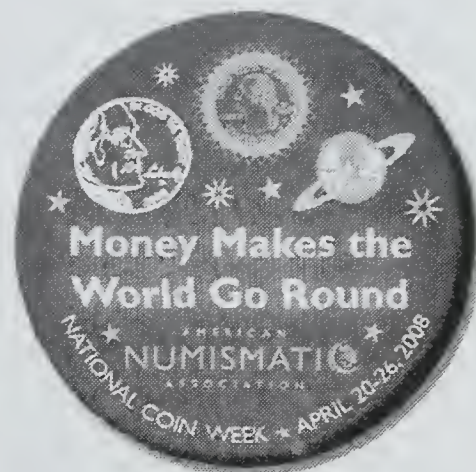
Many online resources and ideas are available from the ANA website.

Learn how Money Makes the World Go Round with ANA’s National Treasure Hunt. The National Coin Week bookmarks challenge you to find 5 different numismatic objects:

- 1) A coin with an animal;
- 2) The oldest coin you can find;
- 3) A coin from a different country or state;
- 4) A coin from the year you were born;
- 5) A coin that’s not a coin (token, medal, etc.)

Once you complete the treasure hunt, contact ANA by e-mail ncw@money.org to enter a drawing for local and national numismatic prizes.

The ANA has created a promotional button and bookmark for clubs participating in National Coin Week.



ANA Summer Seminar

On July 13, 1969, 20 students converged on the campus of the Colorado College. This first seminar was composed of a series of field trips and the First National Bank of Denver. Interspersed between the events were talks by several attendees and films with a numismatic focus. These students were witnessing the beginning of a very special numismatic tradition.

This is a once-a-year opportunity for numismatic camaraderie and this year participants will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the ANA Seminar.

Students are offered a varied selection of week-long courses and optional tours -- Pikes Peak Cog Railway, Dinner Theater, Denver Mint Tour, Garden of the Gods, and others. The fee includes tuition in a single class, a room in Loomis Hall and all meals.

Session #1 - June 21-27

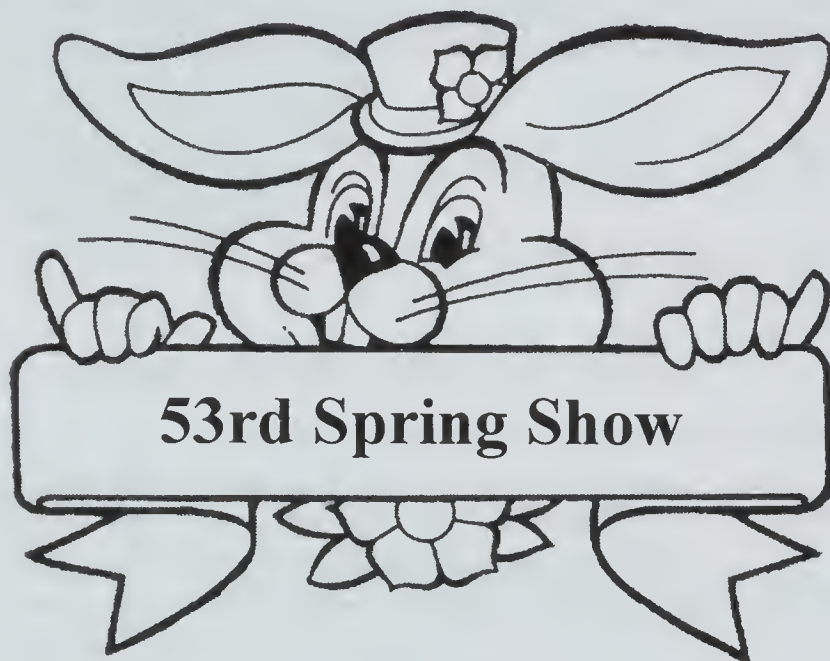
Session #2 - June 28 - July 4

You can register online or get more information about the seminar from the ANA website www.money.org.

* * *

Fox Valley Coin Club

Coin Show



**Sunday,
March 16**

Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Location: Wave Bar & Ballroom
2350 N. Casaloma Drive
Appleton, WI
(near Fox Cities Stadium)**

Free Admission

40 Dealers

**Show Contact: John Boyce
920-739-8027**



Coin Club News

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

An unanimous ballot by acclamation was cast for new MNS officers. They are:

President: Pat Bethe
Vice President: Leon Saryan
Treasurer: Lee Hartz
Secretary: Andrew Keene
Sgt. at Arms: Bob Burlingame
Trustee: Betty Petrovick

MNS awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Dave Hunsicker to attend the ANA Summer Seminar. Congratulations, Dave.

Sadly, MNS experienced the loss of two of its dedicated members -- Jeff Stenber suddenly passed away December 19th and David Derzon of Glendale died on December 20th. David joined NOW in 1967, becoming NOW member #0771 and was active until 2000.

* * *

Madison Coin Club

The December Holiday get-together at the Old Country Buffet was great! A good crowd enjoyed lots of good food, then after dinner the group participated in a "Christmas Trivia" quiz.

The main order of business at their January meeting was an update on plans for the March coin show. New member, Jake Rieb, talked and demonstrated "Coin Shooting" (using a metal detector to find coins).

Racine Numismatic Society

At the December Christmas dinner held at Castlewood Restaurant, members enjoyed a wonderful dinner and great wine added to the taste of the good food. Bill Spencer donated Red Books with Holiday greetings to all members in attendance.

New officers were elected -- John Schroeder is the new RNS president, taking over from Bill Spencer; Treasurer George Conrad; Secretary Dick Roskres. Board members are Jerry Binsfeld, Wayne Coughlin, Milan Alusic and Tom Gagliard.

Members received a warning from the Mint concerning deceptive items coming from China and going on e-bay.

* * *

Central States 69th Anniversary Convention April 16-19

Central States Numismatic Society will hold its 69th Anniversary Convention on April 16-19 at the Donald Stevens Convention Center in Rosemont, IL

Member clubs are invited to the 2nd CSNS breakfast on Friday, April 18th at the Hyatt-Regency Hotel. Two club representatives may attend at no cost to your club.

Member clubs are also invited to a Coin & Currency Grading Seminar on April 15th and an ANA Exhibit Judges' Certification Class on Thursday and Friday. Class instructor will be Col. Joseph Boling, former long-time Chief Exhibit Judge of the ANA. There is no cost to attend, however, reservations are encouraged.

Contact W. Ray Lockwood, Education Director. Phone 765-664-6520 or e-mail him at sunrayofmarion@aol.com.

* * *



Book Nook

“Striking Change, The Great Artistic Collaboration of Theodore Roosevelt and Augustus Saint-Gaudens.”

This new book is published by Whitman Publishing Company. Written by Michael Moran, this book takes a look at the life of artist Augustus Saint-Gaudens and the partnership he forged with Theodore Roosevelt to rein-vigorate U.S. numismatic art. Moran explores Saint-Gaudens’ coin designs in the context of his sculptures and American culture of the time. Included are first-person accounts, behind the scenes conversations and public drama.

This 6x9” 480-page hard covered book is fully illustrated. It sells for \$24.95 and may be ordered from Whitman’s website www.whitmanbooks.com or by calling 800-546-2995.

* * *

Looking for a Specific Book?

Durst Publications stocks approximately 3,000 titles relating to coins, medals, paper money, stocks, bonds, tokens and other numismatic items. Contact publisher Sanford Durst, by calling 1-516-867-3333 or e-mail sjdbooks@verizon.net.

* * *

Guide Book of Counterfeit Currency

In this new Guide Book of Counterfeit Currency, George Tremmel updates his ground-breaking note-by-note research, and expands into counterfeit bonds, shinplasters, and Treas-

ury note sheets. Along the way he immerses the reader in an engaging history of the events and people involved in the production and passing of counterfeits during the Civil War, and the countermeasures the Confederate Treasury Department took to protect its paper money. This hardcover, 352-page full color book sells for \$29.95 from Whitman Publishing Company.

* * *

Journey Back to the Glory Days of the Carson City Mint

If you like Carson City coins, Old West history, Nevada history, political history, U.S. Mint history, U.S. Monetary System history or biographies of famous Americans, you will want James Crawford’s “Master of the Mint at Carson City – A Short Full Life.”

This 650-page, fully-illustrated book has over 2,250 footnotes, penetrating history of the Carson City Mint, insights into Nevada’s Comstock political scene and pertinent facts about the Bureau of the Mint system in the 19th century. It includes a detailed overview of the coin-making process, illuminating narratives about investigations into scandals at the Carson City and San Francisco Mints and behind-the-scenes background on memorable U.S. coins.

This soft-cover book sells for \$41.95 or \$62.95 (hardcover) plus \$7 shipping and handling. To order phone Southgate Coins 775-322-4455.

* * *

Saloon Tokens of the United States

by Al Erickson

This catalog lists approximately 6,400 tokens, offers historical information and has a 55-page Maverick index. The 650-page, soft-cover catalog sells for \$65 and can be ordered from Al Erickson, P.O. Box 99667, Lakewood, WA 98496 or call 253-588-9156.



Travelers Get Less Bang for the Buck

[New York Times]

The U.S. dollar used to be the universal tourist currency, accepted almost anywhere, from the streets of Hanoi to the plains of Africa. But the continued slide of the dollar against other currencies has led the greenback to be shunned in unexpected places, creating new problems for American travelers and pushing prices higher.

The Taj Mahal has stopped accepting dollars for the entrance fee, under a new edict from the Indian Ministry of Culture that also affects other national tourist sites like the 13th century minaret known as the Qutb Minar and Humayun's Tomb in Delhi. As a result, for entrance to the Taj Mahal, Americans must pay 750 rupees (about \$19) compared with \$15 previously.

Some tour operators have encountered newfound resistance to dollars in parts of Vietnam and Peru, especially in villages that are off the beaten path. It used to be a \$100 bill was universal everywhere, said Peter Rudy, the North American director for KE Adventure Travel, a Denver outfit that books adventure trips throughout the world. "It's not now".

Even in New York some shops are encouraging payment in foreign currency.

According to global economist, Jay Bryson, over the past year through mid-January, the dollar depreciated about 9% against the euro, 10% against the rupee and 12% against the Chilean peso.

Some American tour operators are now tacking on so-called currency surcharges in much the same way that airlines have bumped up fuel surcharges in the face of rising oil costs. Others are raising package prices to help make up the difference.

Last month, Group Voyagers, the parent company of Globus, Cosmos, Monograms and Avalon Waterways, added a currency surcharge of about 5% to many of their European tours. For example, Globus' \$1,699 Taste of Italy package starting May 3rd now includes a surcharge of \$110/person. Overall, travelers can expect to pay \$20 to \$190 extra a person for the European tours.

A recent survey showed nearly 60% of members of the U.S. Tour Operators Association serving Europe increased prices up to 15% because of the weak dollar.

And it's not just Europe -- To get the most bang for your buck, consider destinations where the dollar hasn't declined. The dollar is flat against the Mexican peso compared to a year ago and is up about 2% against the Argentine peso. And countries like Panama and Ecuador use U.S. dollars as their official currency.

* * *

Early American Coppers

Early American Coppers (EAC) is a not-for-profit numismatic specialty organization founded in 1967 to serve as a point of contact for collectors of early U.S. copper coins -- Colonials, Half Cents, Large Cents and Hard Time Tokens.

Today EAC comprises over 1,200 members located throughout the United States and members are deeply interested in the historical background, attribution, grading, rarity and related aspects of the early coppers as well as collecting and trading.

The club issues "Penny-Wise", a bi-monthly magazine which contains numerous articles pertaining to early coppers. The club recently

issued a CD-Rom, which is the third volume of the "Penny-Wise Research Library." It contains all issues of the publication from 1967 through the end of 2007. Highlights of the collection are color images, linked indexes and links among pages, as well as external links to e-mail addresses.

Users may access the files right from the CD or move them to the computer's hard drive. The files are searchable through Adobe Acrobat Reader. For more information, check out their website, www.eacs.org.

[ref. Internet & Numismatic News]

* * *

First New \$5 Bill Soon To Be Released

[Bureau of Engraving & Printing]

The first redesigned \$5 bill, which continues to feature the portrait of President Abraham Lincoln, will enter circulation on March 13th and will be spent at the gift shop of President Lincoln's Cottage at the Soldiers' Home in Washington, D.C. The venue, which was recently restored and open to the public, was used by President Lincoln as a retreat. President Lincoln understood that maintaining the integrity of U.S. currency was critical to the stability of our economy. In fact, President Lincoln established the U.S. Secret Service the same evening he was assassinated at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. and made it the agency's primary mission to safeguard the nation's currency from counterfeiters.

President Lincoln's Cottage is located on the Armed Forces Retirement Home campus in Washington, D.C., approximately 10-15 minutes from downtown.

On March 13th, Federal Reserve banks will begin distributing redesigned \$5 bills to customer banks, which will then distribute currency to businesses and consumers. The new bills will first begin circulating in the U.S. and gradually in other countries as international banks place orders for \$5 bills from the Federal Reserve. Older \$5 bills will maintain

their full face value and it will not be necessary to trade in old \$5 bills for new ones.

Free educational Press Kits are available to businesses, financial institutions, trade and professional associations, citizen groups and individuals to prepare cash handlers and consumers to recognize the new design and protect themselves against counterfeits. Materials are available to order or download at www.moneyfactory.gov/newmoney.

* * *

Monroe Dollars Struck on Quarters Planchets

[Mint News Blog]

Coin World recently published a story about a major new Presidential Dollar error. The U.S. Mint apparently struck between 70,000 and 140,000 Monroe Dollars on State Quarter planchets. Instead of using the manganese-brass clad dollar planchet, the copper-nickel clad quarter planchets were used.

In mid-January, the United States Mint's coin-wrapping contractor alerted the agency when it found some irregular James Monroe Presidential \$1 Coins. The coins in question were immediately returned to the United States Mint. The Mint performed an internal inquiry and presently has no evidence to indicate that any irregular Monroe Presidential \$1 Coins have been sent to the Nation's banks. The United States Mint expects to make an estimated 103 million James Monroe Presidential \$1 Coins.

* * *

Old Coin News.Com

This new website was brought to our attention by NOW Governor, Tom Casper and it's worth spending some time exploring. It includes numismatic and coin collecting news from around the world and is updated daily. Readers can also add their comments to each story.

Isle of Man Celebrates the Return of Tutankhamun 2008 Coins

Pobjoy Mint announced the launch of the World's First Pyramid Coin to mark the most anticipated cultural event in 30 years -- the return of Tutankhamun's glorious treasures to London 02's "Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs" exhibition!

This spectacular coin forms part of a series which depicts the most wondrous artifacts unearthed in the young Pharaoh's tomb in the Valley of the Kings by English archaeologist Howard Carter in 1922 and reveals the spectacular canopic coffinette of Tutankhamun which contained the boy King's mummified internal organs. It is most appropriate that these coins will be issued by the Isle of Man Government since Howard Carter's great nephew is a well-known resident of the island. Furthermore, by drawing a line from each point of the Isle of Man's Triskelion symbol, the most iconic symbol of Egypt is revealed – the Pyramid!

The Gold Throne (1/5 oz. Gold Pyramid)

The chair in Ancient Egypt was a symbol of authority and prestige and buried beneath Tutankhamun's hippopotamus couch in the Antechamber to his tomb. Carter discovered the dazzling Gold Throne depicting an image of the boy king and his queen. This pyramid-shaped coin reveals that very scene in which the queen appears anointing her young husband with perfume.

Tutankhamun's miniature coffin (silver pyramid). Four miniature coffins fashioned of gold and inlaid with semi-precious stones and colored glass hold the internal organs which were removed from his body during mummification.

The Scarab (1/25 oz. Gold Round)

The dung-beetle enjoyed a sacred status among the ancient Egyptians who associated the Scarab with both creation and good luck. Egyptologists translate the hieroglyphic image of the beetle as "to come into being" which describes how the scarab naturally emerges from balls of dung.

The Scarab coin is the world's first coin to have a Carnelian stone set into the design and the Eye of Horus coin balances this beautifully with the Lapis Lazuli stone set into the center of the "Eye".

One of the most stunning pieces of jewelry unearthed from the tomb is a pectoral depicting the Scarab, which is the design that appears on this coin. The symbols that make up the Scarab design spells out Tutankhamun's throne name Nebkheperure, which translates as "Lord of the Forms of Re".

Tutankhamun Four Coin Silver Set

The complete set of 4 beautiful sterling silver coins highlight some of the most famous artifacts unearthed by Howard Carter in the



tomb of Tutankhamun. The set consists of 2 pyramid-shaped coins and 2 round coins. The pyramid-shaped coins depict the young pharaoh's miniature coffin which contains his internal organs and an image from the Gold Throne discovered beneath the hippopotamus couch in the Antechamber to the tomb and the round coins depict the Scarab which the ancient Egyptians associated with creation and good luck and the Eye of Horus, which became an important symbol of power and protection.

Tutankhamun Three Coin Gold Set containing the World's First Death Mask Coin. The 3 coin gold set is the ultimate collector's item and contains 3 magnificent Tutankhamun themed coins. To start with there is a 1/25 oz. gold coin depicting the Scarab. There is also a 1/5 oz. gold pyramid-shaped coin which shows an image of the boy king



being anointed with perfume by his queen. This image is taken from the back of the Gold Throne that was discovered beneath Tutankhamun's hippopotamus couch in his tomb. But the highlight of this set is the 3rd coin, which is a 1/2 oz. gold and the World's First Death Mask shaped coin. The spectacular funerary mask of Tutankhamun is undoubtedly the most renowned of all artifacts recovered from the young pharaoh's tomb and makes a truly unique coin.

The Pobjoy Mint Ltd.

The Pobjoy family have been associated with fine metal work since the Middle Ages. For the past 100 years the company has been deeply involved in the development and manufacture of coins, medals and tokens. It's worth noting that the production of fraud-proof tokens for the vending machine industry calls for a higher degree of precision than the ordinary coinage and the Pobjoy Mint has 96% of this market in the United Kingdom.

The Mint has revived many age-old, but long-forgotten numismatic customs. At the same time it has been in the forefront of numismatic development and has acquired an enviable reputation as a trendsetter. It developed the world's first satisfactory man-made precious metal, called Virenium, which has been successfully used in high denomination coinage since 1978. This was hailed worldwide as the first significant breakthrough in coinage this century. They are now the largest private mint in Europe.

* * *

New Laws for Presidential Dollars

In response to public criticism, God will be back in plain view on America's Presidential dollars.

President Bush signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 into law on December 26, 2007. Congress approved the bill that included a provision to move the motto "In God We Trust" from the edge of the coins to a more prominent position on the obverse or reverse.

The words "In God We Trust" first appeared on U.S. coins in 1864. The U.S. Mint has until 2009 to make the modifications. Many conservatives had opposed shifting the motto to the coin's edge, believing it was a step toward removing it altogether.

(Ref. ANA The Numismatist)

Identity Theft Alert

While you can't prevent identity theft, you can minimize your risk. If you believe you are a victim, take action immediately:

Contact the police and fraud departments of the three major credit bureaus:

Equifax	1-800-525-6285
Experian	1-888-397-3742
TransUnion:	1-890-680-7289



Oklahoma Quarter

The first commemorative quarter-dollar coin released in 2008 honors Oklahoma, and is the 46th coin in the U.S. Mint's 50 State Quarters Program.

Oklahoma, nicknamed the "Sooner State" was admitted into the union on November 16, 1907, becoming our nation's 46th state.

The Oklahoma quarter features an image of the state bird, the Scissortail Flycatcher, in flight with its distinctive tail feathers spread. The bird is soaring over the state wildflower, the Indian Blanket, backed by a field of similar wildflowers. The coin's design also bears the inscriptions "Oklahoma" and "1907".

The depiction of Indian Blanket (or Gaillardia) symbolizes the state's rich Native American heritage and native long grass prairies that are abundant in wildlife. Oklahoma was formed by the combination of the Oklahoma Territory and the Indian Territory of the Five Civilized Tribes – Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek, Seminole and Cherokee. The state's name is derived from the Choctaw words "okla" and "homma" meaning "red" and "people."

The process to choose the coin's reverse design began in February 2006. Citizens submitted more than 1,000 concepts for consideration. This eventually led to the creation of 10 narratives based on these concepts. A vote by Oklahoma citizens narrowed the field to five, which were sent to the U.S. Mint for consideration. The final artistic renderings, developed by United States Mint's Sculptor-Engravers and artists in the U.S. Mint's

Artistic Infusion Program were then proposed to Oklahoma for a statewide vote. On April 30, 2007, Governor Brad Henry announced his recommendation of the state bird and wildflower design, based on the overwhelming number of citizen votes for this design.

The Department of the Treasury approved the design on May 25, 2007. Four other designs were considered, including "Pioneer Woman and Child with Windmill and Oil Derrick," "Pioneer Woman and Child with State Outline and Oil Derrick" and two versions of "Pioneer Woman and Child with State Outline and Calumet."

* * *

Quarters Approved for the Territories

In 2009, the United States Mint will mint and issue six quarter-dollar coins in honor of the District of Columbia and the five United States Territories: the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. These coins will be issued in equal sequential intervals in 2009 in the order listed.

The image of George Washington on the obverse of the 50 State Quarters coins will remain unchanged. The reverse of each quarter will be distinctly different with images emblematic of the District of Columbia and each of the United States Territories.

Public Law requires the Secretary of the Treasury to approve each reverse design after consulting with the Chief Executive of the District of Columbia or the territory being honored and the Commission of Fine Arts, and after review by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee. The Design Evaluation and Selection Process provides details on the steps the Secretary and the United States Mint will take to develop and approve the reverse designs in this 2009 series.

These coins will be issued for circulation in quantities to meet the needs of the United States – both for commerce and for collectors. In addition, the Secretary has the authority to mint and issue uncirculated and proof coins, as well as a 90% silver version of each coin. These numismatic versions will be included in the United States Mint's annual product offerings.

What Do Collectors Think?

Many have split opinions about extending the quarter program. Some feel this was a poor choice of legislation and the territories are not states and shouldn't be part of the State Quarters program; others are concerned about the folders and albums that they purchased for the 10-year program. Others have a more positive opinion or don't care one way or another.

* * *

James Monroe Presidential \$1 Coin 5th President 1817-1825



Virginia native James Monroe was exceptionally qualified to serve as the United States' fifth president. Not only was he a Revolutionary War soldier, he was champion of the Bill of Rights, U.S. diplomat in Europe, governor of Virginia, senator, secretary of state, secretary of war, and negotiator of the Louisiana Purchase, before being overwhelmingly elected president in 1817.

His time in office is known as the "Era of Good Feelings" for the peace and booming economy the country enjoyed.

The Monroe Doctrine, a foundation of American foreign policy introduced in an 1823

message to Congress, warned European powers against expansionism in the Western Hemisphere.

Monroe's presidency was also marked by the Missouri Compromise, which preserved a balance of free states and slave states in the United States and prohibited slavery in western territories above the 36/30' north latitude line.

Coinage Legislation under President Monroe

Act of January 14, 1818 – This Act directs the location of the United States Mint to remain in Philadelphia for another term of five years, beginning March 4, 1818.

Act of March 3, 1819 – This Act continues the authorization of certain gold and silver coinage from foreign countries as current and legal tender for the payment of debts within the United States. Specific rates of exchange are enumerated for the coins of Great Britain, Portugal, France and Spain.

Act of March 3, 1821 – This Act continues the provisions of the Act of April 29, 1816, relating to the legal tender value of French coins.

Act of March 3, 1823 – This Act authorizes certain gold coinage from foreign countries as current and legal tender in all payments on account of public lands within the United States. Specific rates of exchange are enumerated for the coins of Great Britain, Portugal, France and Spain. The Act also calls for an annual assay of such coins and for a report to the Congress detailing the results.

Act of March 3, 1823 – This Act directs the location of the United States Mint to remain in Philadelphia for another term of five years, beginning March 4, 1823.

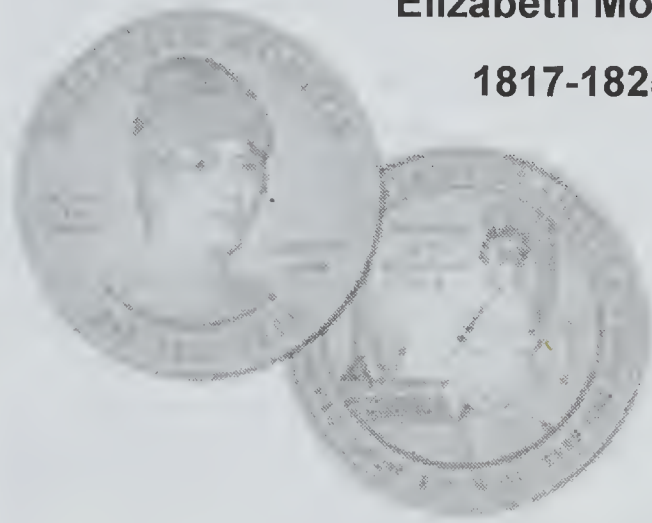
In 1824 President Monroe appointed Samuel Moore as the fifth Director of the United States Mint.

* * *

First Lady \$10 Gold Coin

Elizabeth Monroe

1817-1825



Elizabeth Kortright was born in New York City in 1768 and married James Monroe at age 17. The family made their home in Virginia, but spent several years overseas while James Madison served as U.S. Foreign Minister to Great Britain, France, and Spain. She became a popular figure in France, where she was affectionately called “la belle Americane” because of her beauty and style.

Her time spent in European diplomatic circles influenced her sense of proper protocol for the White House, to which she brought a European stateliness and formality. Their youngest daughter, Maria, was the first presidential child to be married in the White House, in a small private ceremony. When Elizabeth and James Monroe left the White House, they returned to Oak Hill, the family estate in Virginia, where she lived for the remainder of her life.

On January 1, 1818, Elizabeth and James Monroe held a grand New Year’s Day reception marking the reopening of the White House, which was rebuilt after its burning at the hands of the British in 1814. The couple supplied some of their own furniture to the government because the White House was almost empty when they moved in. This French Empire style furniture imparted the feeling of formality that they considered appropriate for the Executive Mansion. Nine pieces remain in the White House today.

Wooden Money

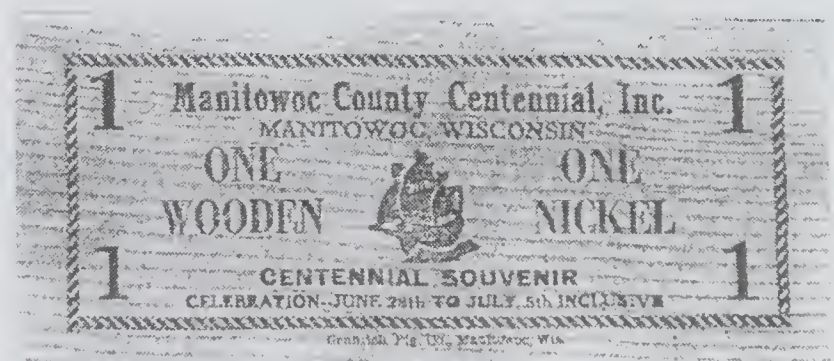
[by David Hunsicker
reprinted from MNS newsletter]

With the high price of precious medals these days, the highest in many years, all eyes are on the values of gold and silver coins. Too often we consider the hobby with “value” instead of fun. A fun area of collecting is wooden nickels. They have no intrinsic value, in fact they can “burn”. However, collecting wood can be interesting and challenging.

Starting back in the 1930’s during the Depression, Tenino, Washington issued wooden money to help the local economy. These early issues can be quite hard to find. Since then many communities used the idea by issuing pieces for various celebration like centennials. Wooden nickels are not necessarily valuable , however some can be very challenging to get.

To enhance the hobby a new catalog is in the works and will hopefully be released next year which may help stimulate collecting. There are two clubs to join for those interested in starting. The International Organization of Wooden Money Collectors can be contacted through President Darrell Luedtke, 9957 W. Margaret Lane, Franklin, WI 53132 or Dedicated Wooden Money Collectors through Floyd Thomas, 6505 Mullen Road, Shawnee, KS 66216.

Manitowoc is one of Wisconsin’s oldest woods. The sample shown below actually turns out to be a scarce variety with the name of the printer showing. Try picking a certain state and start collecting. It’s fun!



British Jinx Ship Great Eastern

by Gene Johnson L-105

Buried in time are the seven wonders of the world, of which only legend and the crumbling sphinx of Egypt remain, while in Wisconsin numismatics only scraps and bits remain of the incredibly encompassing exhibit assembled by the veteran Madison hobbyist Gordon Gill (1902-1985).



Eclectic and non-competitive, the five case exhibit was perhaps the most storied and discussed part of every coin show where it was shown.

Collectors salivated at the sight of the 1879 Stella, 1860 Clark and Gruber Company gold, proof obsolete value coins and the crisp rare banknotes. Equally eye-opening were the exotic and rarely seen foreign crowns and paper money. The exnumia displayed included Yap money, odd and curious, unique scrip and rare and unusual tokens and medals.



The weight of the dollar value alone, rather than passing years, sent this unique eclectic display to oblivion with Gill's death in 1985. Choice gold and pristine condition silver coin and paper money rarities were never meant to lay fallow.

Lesser in value, but of great interest, were the multitude of "oddments" Gordon Gill had collected and made part of the memorable display.

This "Great Eastern" medalet once prized by Gordon has a tale to tell.

The Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers today host a number of charming "paddle boats" tourist oriented vessels that recall early river passenger traffic and commerce in the mid west. Steel hulled and safe, historically

speaking, they little resemble the dangerous coal fueled wooden craft that so often self destructed in the heyday of steam paddle-boats.

While river paddleboats were quite common prior to 1900, ocean going paddlers were far scarcer due to coal fueling on long oceanic voyages. Here the sailing ship still held court.

British maritime dreamer Isambard Branel challenged this in 1858 with the Great Eastern, a ship nearly 700 feet long and 120 feet wide, with coal bunkers that could provide steam for even the longest ocean trips.

*Purchased on Board the
Great Eastern 1860
Tonage 24,000
Horse Power 2600
Length 692 ft.
Breadth 83 ft.
Depth 60 ft.*

When six men died during the launching and trial runs, British mariners labeled the monster vessel a "Jinx" ship. Then her designer Isambard Branel sickened and died, confirming the curse of the Jinx ship.

A litany of misfortunes continued to follow the Great Eastern, bankrupting two sets of subsequent owners, however, fame was destined then to follow.

The Great Eastern's claim to fame came not as a passenger ship, but as a telegraph cable laying vessel.

Intercontinental undersea telegraph cable had been attempted since 1842, and did show some promise. The English channel was achieved in 1851, and during the next 10 years several other short undersea cables were completed.

In 1865, the Great Eastern left Ireland and unrolled over 1,000 miles of line before the cable snapped. Undaunted, a year later the

giant paddle wheeler again sailed for Canada unrolling cable, and this time succeeded -- intercontinental telegraph had become a reality. An illustrious cable laying "career" followed for Great Eastern, including a cable installation from France to America and other successful "lays".

Made obsolete in the passage of time, the paddle wheel giant spent her final years as a floating amusement park in Liverpool, England. In 1888 Great Eastern was cut up for scrap.

The nicely designed Great Eastern medalet is known in two metals -- brass and pot metal alloy. While the medalets are dated 1860, a period when the ship was used by passengers, the souvenirs could have been struck and sold while the Great Eastern was used as an amusement park. The 1860 date then, referring to the third owner following the bankruptcies. The little medals are sought after by both history buffs and maritime exnumia collectors.

Gordon Gill found many "mini histories" in his multi-faceted numismatic collections, and filled scrapbooks and composition booklets with interesting clippings and research notes. The Great Eastern was just such a story!

Beware of Quick Credit Fixes

[Wisconsin State Journal]

Many companies say they will solve your credit woes, but can they deliver? "If anyone claims they can erase bad credit, give you a new credit identity or remove bankruptcies, judgments, liens and bad loans from your credit file, it's a scam" warns Frank Dorman, a spokesman for the Federal Trade Commission. You needn't pay someone to correct misinformation -- write your own letters. No one can erase negative information from your record if it's accurate. "While something is in dispute, it's temporarily taken off your record, but it will reappear" says Cate Williams of Money Management International, which provides debt help. If you've made credit mistakes, only time and good behavior will fix them. For genuine help (often free) call the National Foundation for Credit Counseling at 1-866-479-6322 or visit www.nfcc.org.

There Once Was a Toll Road

This interesting bit of history was written by Stephen O. Rabb and was published in the Mazomanie Sickle newspaper on Friday, March 16, 1923.

Few people who travel the road between Sauk City and Mazomanie know, and most of them who have had occasion to plow through it during the muddy season are loathe to believe that anyone would think of collecting or paying toll on such a road. But such is the fact, at least as to a part of this distance.

In the early days before Mazomanie was on the map, the road at a point about three miles northeast of where the village now stands, veered to the eastward, following up what is known as "Dunlap Hollow" for a distance of about three miles, thence north over considerable of a ridge, thence northeast to Sauk City. This was a circuitous route and had a number of heavy grades. The present road receives some travel in the winter when the marshes are frozen and covered with snow, but was impassable when the frost was out.

Somewhere about 1853 or 1854, some parties, among them a Dr. Woodruff, who was then practicing physician at Prairie du Sac, seems to have been the leading spirit, secured a charter for a road along the bluffs where it now is. They did some grading, not too much, built a small dwelling house and erected a gate on what is now the Fossbender farm. By the way, this spot was the scene of the battle of "Wisconsin Heights" where troops overtook Black Hawk. Here they procured a man named William Baker to attend the gate, collect tolls and sell "liquid refreshments", but the venture was not a success.

The traveling public objected to paying for the privilege of dragging vehicles through

the marshes and would resort to all sorts of means to avoid it. Sometimes one man would hold the gate open while another drove through. Finally a teamster named Forest George finding the gate locked against him, hitched his team to the gate and pulled it out of the way. I don't think it was ever rebuilt.

Not long after, the company surrendered its charter and the road was taken over by the town.

I have no means of knowing exactly what length of this road was chartered, but think it must have been only about 4 miles, as the road coming into Sauk City from Roxbury and the one coming from Dunlap Hollow to Mazomanie would preclude their having a charter for the whole distance.

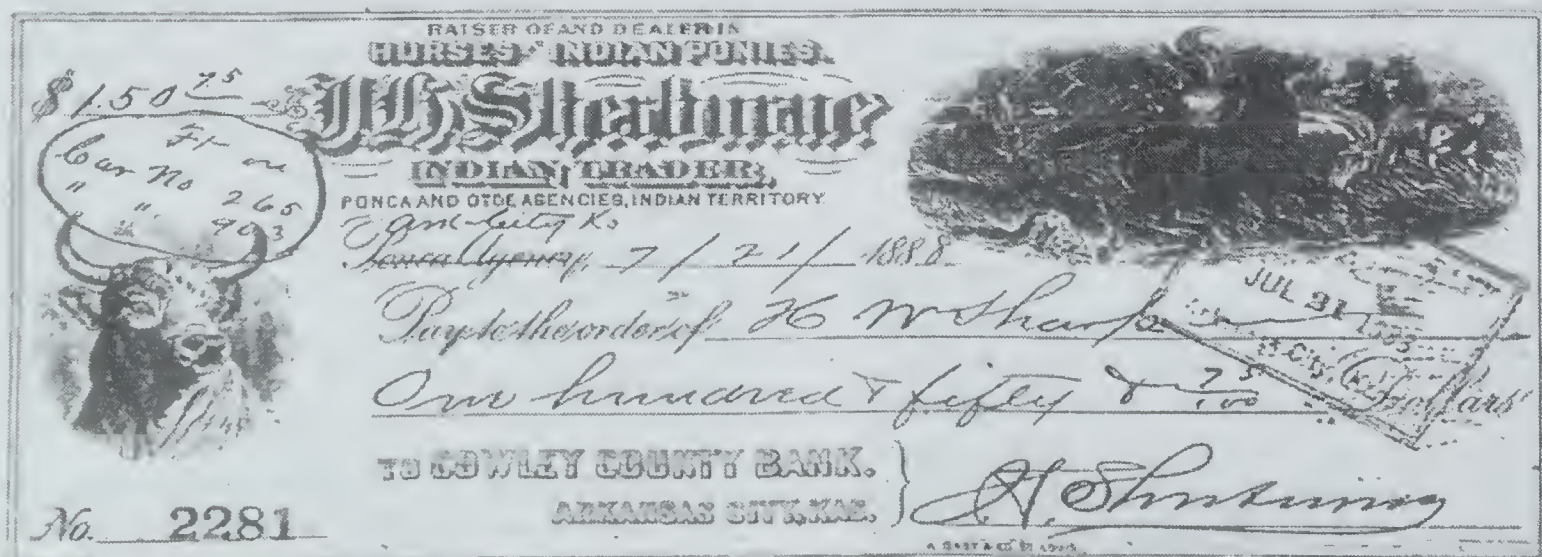
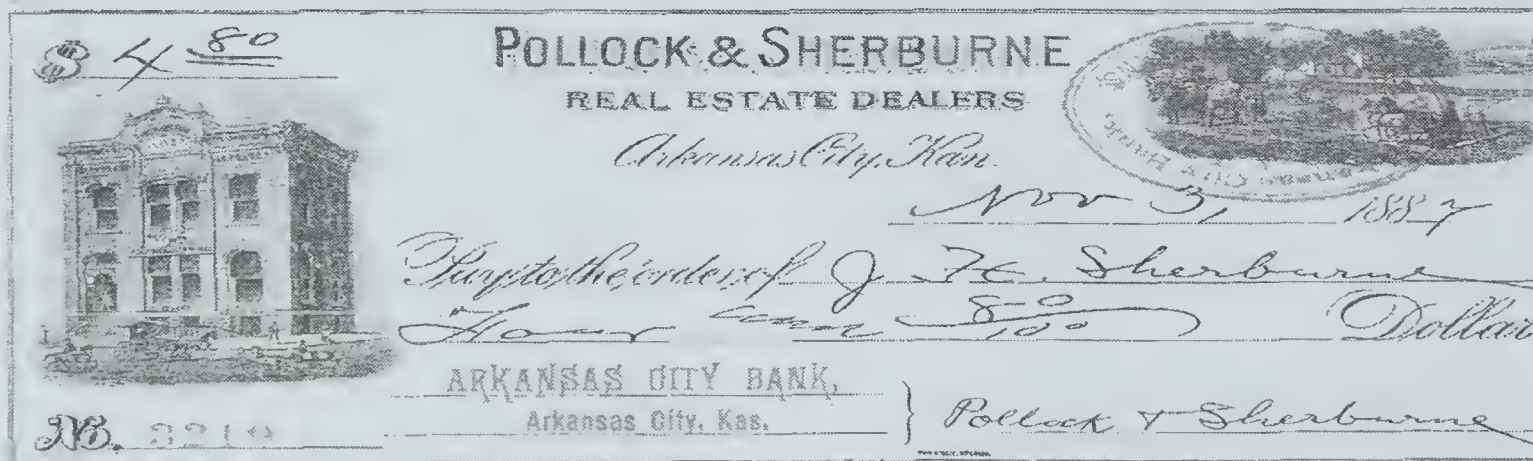
Letter to the Editor

James Adams, NOW #1405 recently wrote to the Editor: "Really enjoyed your articles in NOW News re J.H. Sherburne, Indian Trader and "The Traders". (NOW News Spring 1998).

I recently found this interesting check from Arkansas City, Kan., Pollock & Sherburne, Real Estate Dealers. It is made out to Sherburne and endorsed by him twice. It has 2 nice vignettes and is in nice condition.

I've never seen anything about Sherburne that mentions he was in the real estate business with Pollock. I thought you might like to see this.

The bottom check is a copy of one I missed out on from Eric Jackson a few years ago. It is made over from Ponca Agency to Arkansas City, Kansas. Sure wish I could find one of these checks."

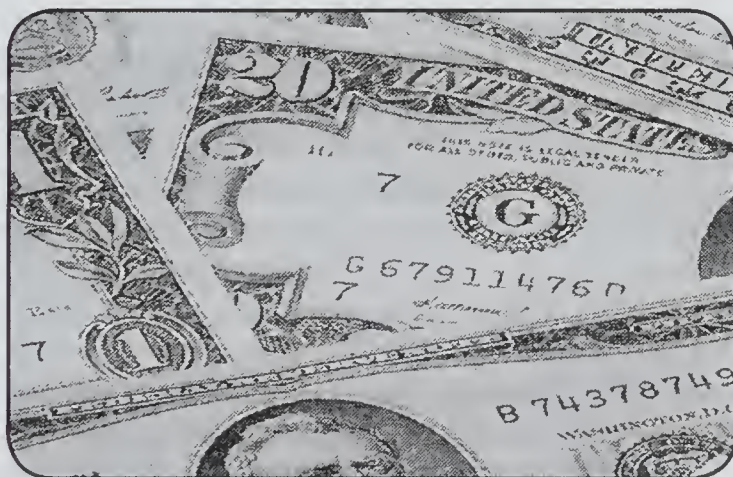


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A Visit to Baalbek

by Leon Saryan #100L

"... all were filled with wrath. And they rose up and put him out of the city, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw him down headlong. But passing through the midst of them, he went away." [Luke 4:28:30]

Baalbek is an impressive ancient Greco-Roman archaeological site in Lebanon, the ruins of which are of such size and scope that, in my opinion, they rival the grandeur of Athens and Rome. In its totality, this is a marvelous ancient site, with two large impressive temples (one of which is fairly intact), massive standing limestone walls and granite columns, and monumental sculpture. Certainly, Baalbek is one ancient site that no visitor to Lebanon should miss.

I visited tiny Lebanon in January to participate in an international conference on the Culture of Cilician Armenia, where I gave a talk on Armenian numismatics. As part of the conference we made an excursion to this world-famous ancient site.

There was just one problem. Baalbek is located in central Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. The area around the temple is a principal stronghold of the fanatical Shia Islamic sects, Hezbollah and Amal. Furthermore, the morning we set out was the start of Ashoura, one of the most solemn Shia holidays, where celebrants mutilate themselves with swords to commemorate the martyrdom of the Imam Huseyin centuries ago.

Obviously, there was a certain risk to undertaking the trip. But I was visiting Lebanon for my first and perhaps only visit, and I was determined not to pass up an opportunity to see this wonder of the ancient world. We set out from Zalka (a suburb just north of Beirut) on the crisp, sunny winter morning of January 18, with a bus of about 15 people.

Beirut is on the Mediterranean seacoast, and the Lebanese mountains rise immediately east of the city. To reach the Bekaa Valley we had

to cross the mountain range. As we reached the crest, we were able to view a very high bridge that had been blown apart by Israeli jets 18 months earlier.

Descending into the Bekaa, I began to understand the complexity of the country's politics. Lebanon is a patchwork of perhaps two dozen different factions, all living in close proximity to each other: some Christian, some Sunni Muslim, and some Shia Muslim. In addition, there are Druzes, who are neither Christian nor Muslim, and others (such as Kurds) who are defined primarily by ethnicity. Over the centuries, most of these people and factions have learned to live in peace with each other, but some harbor the ambition of imposing their beliefs on the rest of the country, a principal cause of the country's instability. This led to the civil war, which lasted from 1975 to 1990. After this there was the 10-year Syrian occupation, and of course, there is the threat of attack from Israel such as occurred in 2006. In spite of these obstacles, most people seem determined to again turn their country into the Paris of the Middle East.

As we approached the ruins of Baalbek, our bus driver was compelled to negotiate throngs of Ashoura celebrants dressed in white. We could hear a mullah on a loud-speaker blaring a sermon in Arabic from one of the nearby mosques, breaking the still winter air. From his tone of voice it was apparent that he was pretty worked up, but his message was lost on me since I do not understand Arabic. One of my travel companions translated the harangue for me, which can be summarized as "death to foreigners, death to Jews" Although we definitely fit into the foreigner category, we, like Jesus Christ, remarkably passed through the crowds without danger and reached our destination.

Souvenir sales are part of the landscape at many famous sites of the classical world. The peddlers at Baalbek are the most aggressive I have ever encountered. Athens and Rome, even Pompeii, are tame by comparison. Even before I had stepped off the bus, I

was besieged by three or four young men, all pushing fake “ancient coins” into my hands. They badgered us all the way to the entrance of the ruins, beating their chests exclaiming “Walah, they real, believe me, BELIEVE me.” Regardless, at least 90% of the pieces I was shown, as well as some little brass figurines, were fakes.

The fact that these guys were peddling obvious fakes did not prevent me from looking. I even bought a few samples as souvenirs, but not until I had bargained the sellers down from their \$50 asking price to close to \$5 each. One of these fakes was an attractive Athenian owl, well-centered and without test cuts, which (if real) would be worth a few thousand dollars. Another was a forged “tetradrachm” of Alexander the Great, one of the best known and most widely distributed coins of the ancient world. These counterfeits were manufactured in some white metal to resemble genuine silver coins.

The same sellers also had several fake coins made of bronze, copper, or another base-metal alloy. These were of various types – ancient Greek, Roman, Armenian and Byzantine – and all were easy to recognize as false. I obtained six different examples. All of them carried traces of the reddish soil common in the area; more than likely they had been buried underground in order to age them artificially. Curiously, on all 6 pieces the edges had been smoothed to eliminate irregularities. The smooth edges and similar appearance and fabric gave them away, suggesting that all emanated from the same workshop. The only possibly genuine coins in the peddlers’ hands were a few thin late Roman bronzes, which were not very valuable or visually appealing.

Lebanon is home to many Armenians, and so it was of particular interest to find that among the fakes being offered were ancient coins of Armenia. One peddler showed me a particularly attractive (but false) “silver tetradrachm” of Tigranes the Great (95-56 BC), for which he was asking \$200. I tried hard to bargain the price down to \$10, but

the seller would not budge. The piece looked familiar, and I had a few seconds to check the diagnostics (including the die axis, which was 7:00 h, totally incorrect for this series).

As I suspected, this piece bore a close resemblance to an example that had been sold as genuine on the eBay internet auction site in 2006. A second example with the same diagnostic characteristics was later offered for sale in early 2007 by a reputable dealer from northern California for \$3500. I had played a part in exposing these fakes, but I had no way of knowing where they originated – until now. The discovery of a third example in Lebanon’s Bekaa Valley leads me to suspect that this particular fake may originate in Lebanon or Syria.

The second Tigranes fake offered to me at Baalbek seems to be made of bronze or another base metal. It is crudely executed copy of an authentic silver tetradrachm. Like the other fake bronzes which I obtained the edge of this piece is smooth and bears traces of having been worked on a wheel.

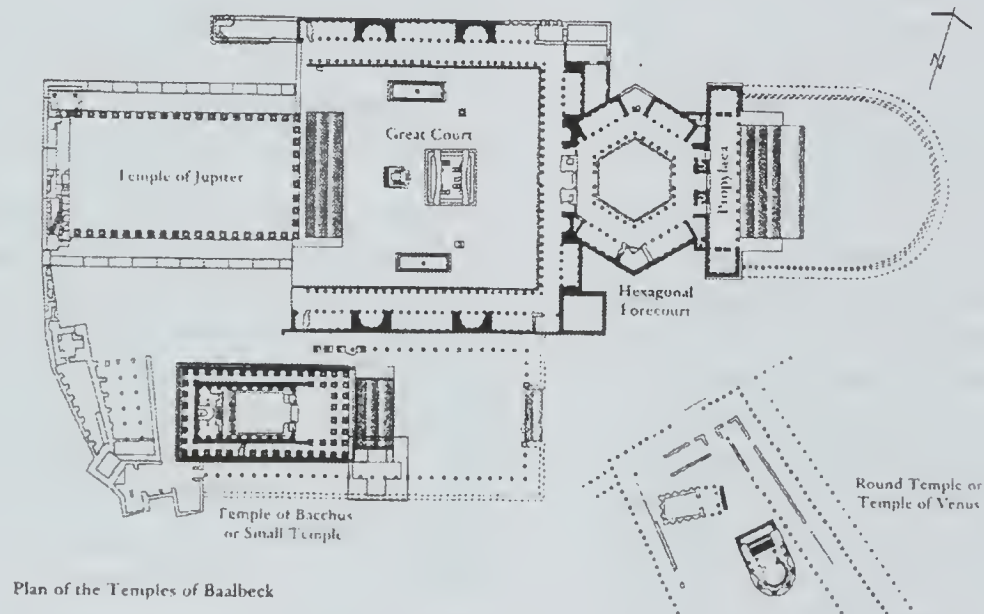
The obverse and reverse faces of the coin are pitted, suggesting that the piece was manufactured by casting. Overall, this piece has a totally unnatural appearance, and it should not fool anyone with a modicum of experience examining or studying genuine ancient coins. At 11.97 grams (diameter 26 mm, 7:00 h), it is too light to be a genuine silver tetradrachm, and too heavy to be a large copper.

Looking back on this incident, I should add that I was taken aback by the brazenness of the sellers. They insisted that, since winter was not the tourist season, their prices were better. Each time that they proclaimed to me that their coins were genuine; I reminded myself that they were rather obvious fakes. One has to think of these encounters as purchasing replica souvenirs, not historical collectibles. The bronzes, however, were not even decent replicas.

The take-home lesson is certainly nothing new to people who have traveled in the Middle East. The key to counterfeit coin detection is to know the characteristics of genuine coins, and to compare the suspect coins to genuine examples. More often than not, coins coming from the pockets of local peddlers at ancient sites are modern counterfeits designed to fool unsuspecting tourists.

[ref. "Counterfeit Ancient Armenian Coins in Internet Auctions," The Celator, Vol. 21, No. 1 (January 2007) pp 24, 25-27, 32. Reference is to the first coin described in the article.

"Further Comments on a Newly-Reported Counterfeit Tigranes Tetradrachm, Armenian Numismatic Journal, Vol. 33, No. 2 (June 2007), p. 34.}



BAALBECK: Temple de Jupiter (1er siècle ap. J.-C.)
 معبد جوبيتر (القرن الاول م.)
 Jupiter Temple (1st century A.D.)

BAALBECK: Temple de Jupiter (1er siècle ap. J.C.)
 Jupiter Temple (1st century A.D.)

Super Size Souvenir Libby Prison War Museum 1889-1899

by Gene Johnson L105

Perhaps the retail cost of the Libby Prison souvenir medals was prohibitive, or maybe the thick format and excessive weight was the problem.

Not many of the nearly half-pound medals appear to have been sold, even using the ploy of dating for the Chicago World Fair of 1893, of which the museum was not a part. Whatever the reason, the Libby Prison War Museum medal is scarce.

A long-term reason for the scarcity may be that the heavy medals were melted down for metal content somewhere in time.

With an impressive high relief rendering of the Libby Prison on the obverse, and a multitude of historic information on the reverse, it begged a lighter weight, and a more "pocket size".

The Civil War was a lousy time to be captured by either the Federalist (North) or the Confederates (South). Prison health sanitation was non-existent and food, especially in the South, was in short supply. For reasons of hatred, the prisoner exchange of the early war, which allowed prisoners to be "paroled" had been stopped.

The confederate city of Richmond, Virginia seemed to be an early "dumping ground" for Federal prisoners, that city hosting seven different prisoner of war jails and lockups.

One Richmond prison was to become more famous than all the others -- Libby Prison.

The "prison" consisted of three old conjoined tobacco warehouses that had been leased as a ship chandlery in 1854 by Luther Libby. The site was "commandeered" by the Confederate army in 1862 to be used as a prisoner of war prison, retaining Luther Libby's name.

Made famous in 1864 by a huge prison break by 109 Federal officers, Libby Prison was later to make a long journey North to become a Civil War museum.

Following the Civil War, in 1871, Luther Libby died and his ship chandlery/prison was sold a couple of times, ending up as a fertilizer factory.



Reverse of Libby Prison Medal

"1845 Libby Prison, Richmond, VA Erected in 1845 by Luther Libby. Occupied by Libby & Son, ship chandlers and grocers. In 1861 taken by the Confederates and converted into a prison. From 1861 to 1864 40,000 prisoners were confined in it. Largest number at one time 1400. For officers exclusively. In 1864 - 5 Februarys 1864, 109 Union officers made their escape by the celebrated tunnel planned by Col. Thos. E. Rose. Moved to Chicago in 1889, converted into a national war museum owned by the Libby Prison War Museum A'ssn. C.S. Gunther, Pres. L.Manasse Vice Pres. C.F. Kremer Sec. and Tres. 1893."

*Around the edge reverse:
"No sectionalism 1861 no North no South
1865 no animosity"*

In 1888 a syndicate of Chicago, Illinois businessmen bought the building and site, and proceeded with what then was an amazing dismantling and move -- remember, this was 1888!

Louis Hallowel of Philadelphia was hired to take the prison apart, brick-by-brick, and board-by-board for shipment to Chicago. While the piece-by-piece numbered dismantling and reassemble is not unusual today, in 1888 it was a mile marker achievement for the already famous Louis M. Hallowel. It took over 132 railroad cars of 20 ton each to make the move north at a cost of over \$200,000. Over 600,000 bricks were shipped.

Meanwhile in Chicago, native stone was quarried and a massive base built for the prison between 14th and 16th street.

On September 21, 1889 the museum opened to the public, incorporated as the Libby Prison Museum Association. It featured the Civil War collection of Charles F. Gunther, who had made a fortune in candy manufacture.

Chicago welcomed the museum, and it thrived, no doubt drawing many tourists during the 1892-93 World's Fair. In 1897 Charles Gunther (the primary exhibitor at the museum) took control of the operation.

The museum closed in 1899 and the Coliseum was constructed on the site.

The second Libby Prison dismantling was nostalgic. The Chicago Historical Society preserved many of the building's materials as artifacts. The old prison's wooden timbers were shipped to Hamlet, Indiana, and used to build a massive barn. In later years, these beams were considered valuable relics.

Back in Richmond Virginia, the old Libby Prison site which had changed hands several times, was marked with a plaque to remember the prison.

In my many years of token collecting, I recall seeing only one other Libby Prison medal, that illustrated in the 1981 prison token book by Bob Lemke and Jerry Zara.



Libby Prison Postcard

White border postcard that is dated by its type to 1915-1930 era. Published by Southern Bargain House, Richmond, VA. It has been copied from a vintage photo.

***Beautiful and Historical Richmond VA Series
No. 12. Libby Prison, Richmond, VA.***

"In this famous building which formerly stood on the corner of 20th and Cary Sts. thousands of Federal officers were imprisoned during the war. On one occasion 19 successfully effected their escape by tunneling under its walls. Was dismantled in 1893, re-erected in Chicago for exhibition purposes during the World's Fair and is now there."

BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORICAL RICHMOND, VA. SERIES.
No. 12. LIBBY PRISON, RICHMOND, VA.
In this famous building, which formerly stood on the corner of 20th & Cary Sts., thousands of Federal Officers were imprisoned during the war. On one occasion 19 successfully effected their escape by tunneling under its walls. Was dismantled in 1893, re-erected in Chicago for exhibition purposes during the World's Fair and is now there.



Museum and Zoo Tokens from Wisconsin

by Dreux J. Watermolen #1755

About two dozen zoos and over 500 museums call Wisconsin home. These institutions help preserve our history, teach us about the natural world, celebrate our achievements (both great and small), foster community pride, and inspire a sense of wonder. Many of these places also offer souvenir tokens to their visitors. Some have used admission or turnstile tokens. Others have produced wooden nickels to commemorate their buildings or advertise their special events. Occasionally, a local coin club or other organization has issued a token associated with a particular site. Collecting these numismatic items can add to the pleasure of visiting these special places.

Over the past thirty years I have visited many of Wisconsin's cultural institutions and have accumulated a fair number of medals, tokens, and elongated coins related to these sites. It does not appear that these items have been cataloged elsewhere, so I recently initiated an effort to assemble a catalog of tokens related to Wisconsin's museums and zoos. In this article, I would like to share a few representative examples of these numismatic items and request the assistance of fellow collectors in my cataloging endeavor.

Milwaukee Public Museum Elongated Cents

The Milwaukee Public Museum (800 West Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233) remains one of Wisconsin's premier cultural attractions. Officially chartered in 1882, the museum's roots extend back to 1851 and the founding of the German-English Academy where learning directly from objects was stressed. The four floors of exhibits (150,000 square feet) highlight human and natural history and include various hands-on activity areas, as well as music, animation, and documentary video footage.

In 2007, the museum had four "souvenir penny" machines that produce elongated cents, each located in a different exhibit area. Visitors could purchase one of these souvenirs by inserting two quarters and a cent into the electronic machine that then automatically rolled the cent.

The elongated coin available at "The Third Planet: Earth" exhibit reads "MILWAUKEE" across the top and "PUBLIC MUSEUM" along the bottom and features a Triceratops dinosaur in profile. A border of 52 dots outlines the coin.



This elongated cent from the Milwaukee Public Museum depicts a Triceratops dinosaur.



The elongated coin on the left is a Tyrannosaurus Rex from the zoo's special dinosaur exhibit in 2002.

From the machine at the museum's Puelicher Butterfly Wing reads "MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM" across the top and features a swallowtail butterfly with wings spread.

On this token, the words form part of the border, which is completed with 29 dots.

The museum's "Temples, Tells & Tombs" exhibit recently closed to make room for another exhibit, but the elongated from the machine near that area reads "MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM" across the top and features



This elongated cent from the Milwaukee Public Museum depicts an Egyptian mummy.

an Egyptian mummy. The image on this coin is oriented vertically and is surrounded by a border of 52 dots.

The final penny rolling machine at the museum is situated in the “Numismatics” exhibit area. This special exhibit of nearly 200 prized specimens closes August 7, 2008, so if you haven’t visited it already, now is the time! The elongated from this machine reads “MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM” across the top and “COLLECTING COINS CAPTURES TIME” along the bottom. The design features an 1870 coin with “ANA” to the left and “2007” to the right. “MILWAUKEE, WIS” appears below the depicted coin and above “COLLECTING COINS CAPTURES TIME.” This token commemorates the American Numismatic Association’s annual convention, which was held in Milwaukee in 2007. Unfortunately, when I visited the museum in late December 2007, this last machine was not working properly and pressed the coins off-center.

The House on the Rock Tokens

The House on the Rock near Spring Green, WI, was built as a weekend retreat atop a 60-foot rock outcrop in the 1940s and has become one of southern Wisconsin’s most popular attractions. The complex of buildings, exhibits, and garden displays has some of the world’s most eclectic collections including the world’s largest carousel and largest collection of animated, automated music machines. The collections include doll houses, miniature circus models, carved ivory pieces, historic weapons, glass paper weights, crown jewel replicas, and numerous other oddities. The House has produced a number of tokens over the years for both admission and as souvenirs.

This brass token from the House on the Rock commemorates Alex Jordan, the man responsible for the attraction.



Two 25-mm brass tokens are among the numismatic items associated with the House. The obverse of the first reads “CREATOR OF A WORLD WONDER” across the top and “ALEX JORDAN” along the bottom. A bust of Mr. Jordan facing left appears in the center of this token.. Jordan built the original house and is responsible for the various collections.



This brass House on the Rock token commemorates the world’s largest carousel, which is on exhibit at the attraction.



The other token features a carousel horse in its center and reads “THE WORLDS LARGEST / CAROUSEL” The reverse of each has the words “THE HOUSE ON THE ROCK” around the top and a diagrammatic representation of the collections. Visitors use these tokens, instead of quarters, to purchase elongated cents (the House offers three designs) from penny roller machines.

Wisconsin Veterans Museum Commemorative Medals

Established in 1901 and operated by the state’s Department of Veterans Affairs, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum (30 West Mifflin Street, Madison, WI 53703) commemorates Wisconsin citizens who served in the military from the Civil War to the present. The museum houses a large collection of artifacts associated with Wisconsin’s military history, including three aircraft. Ten thousand square feet of

exhibits, including dramatic recreations of battle scenes with life-size figures and authentic equipment, highlight important events in the state's military history. The museum operates a Research Center where books, photographic materials, oral histories, and archival collections can be accessed.

The museum also develops educational programs, often focusing on specific themes such as World War II or Korea.

The Veterans Museum's gift shop sells a commemorative medal to visitors (\$10.50 w/tax). The medal is round, 39 mm in diameter, and struck in bronze. The obverse reads "COMMEMORATIVE OF THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM" in a single line and features drawings of four soldiers. The reverse has no writing, but depicts a bald eagle. The museum also sells similar medals commemorating U.S. veterans of various armed conflicts; none of these, however, mention the museum specifically.



Wisconsin Veterans
Commemorative
Medal

Building the Catalog

While many years of collecting have resulted in a substantial accumulation of these items, I have not visited every cultural institution in the state and have certainly missed opportunities to acquire some tokens. Therefore, I am requesting help from fellow Wisconsin collectors in compiling this catalog. I would greatly appreciate receiving information you might have related to any elongated cent, wooden nickel, token, or medal associated with one of Wisconsin's cultural institutions (i.e. art museums and folk art environments; historical museums and heritage sites; children's museums and discovery centers; automobile, maritime, and railroad museums;

military/veterans museums and monuments; botanical gardens and zoos).

I am particularly interested in learning about tokens that coin clubs or other local organizations may have produced for these sites. Descriptions of tokens, photographs or photocopy images, or other related information can be sent to me at P.O. Box 302, Madison, 53701-0302 or via e-mail at djsantiques@yahoo.com.

All contributions are appreciated and will be acknowledged.

* * *

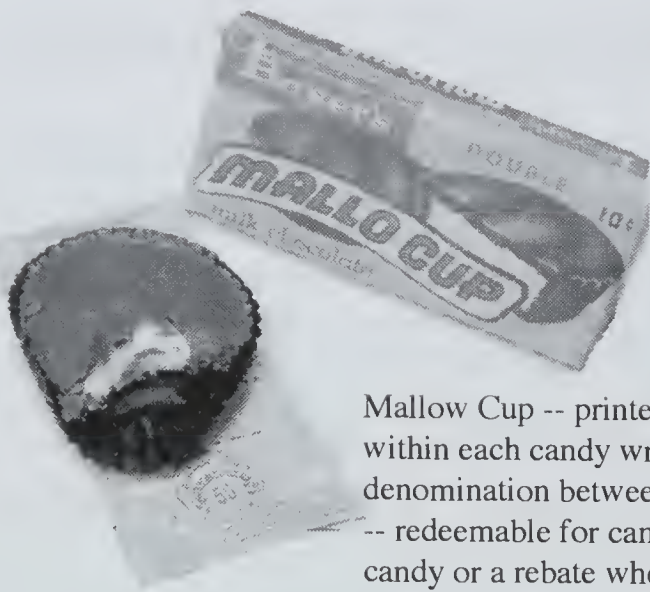
Collecting My 100th River

[This article was written by Rick Reinhardt. I don't know where this article came from, however, I'm sure it will bring back many childhood memories -- Editor]

Ever since I was a young boy, I remember having collections of one kind or another. The first collections I recall were of items, that to this day, attract the attention of young boys. There was a time when my baseball card collection was my prized possession. I don't remember much about the cards I had, except that Jim Gentile was probably my favorite. What I remember most about collecting baseball cards were the friendships I made trading the cards. I still see some of those early friends.

Another early collection of mine was coins. My parents would endure me examining each and every coin they would accumulate throughout the day. When I found a coin that I didn't have, I organized my findings by cataloguing the coin's description, condition and value. I then stored the coin in a display book.

The third collection I recall having as a young boy was akin to a child's version of the present day instant lottery. This involved the purchase of Mallow Cup candy.



Mallow Cup -- printed cardboard within each candy wrapper had a denomination between 1¢ and \$1 -- redeemable for candy, coupons for candy or a rebate when they totaled 500 points' worth. These sweet, creamy milk chocolate cups were manufactured by the Bayer Candy Company since 1932.

To a kid with a passion for collecting, the Mallow Cup is not just any ordinary piece of candy. Inside every Mallow Cup was a Mallow Cup coin of varying values. When you collected \$5 in Mallow Cup coins, the company would send you a free box of Mallow Cups. Although I didn't much care for the candy, I loved the excitement of finding a high-valued coin of 10 cents or more inside those packages.

As time went on, I used my baseball card collection to turn my bicycle into a motorbike. I accomplished this by mounting the cards next to the wheel spokes. This emitted a "put-put" sound that mimicked a motorbike as the spokes destroyed the valuable baseball card. About the same time, I was getting sick of eating boxes of Mallow Cups. This meant only one thing -- it was time for a new collection.

My passion for collecting turned to butterflies and moths. My cousin and I did pretty good with our collections, winning several 1st and 2nd prizes at the York Fair. This collection taught me the value of research that is necessary for traveling to remote locations to find allusive specimens. One of these ventures took me to Tygart State Park where I didn't even notice the river.

When I turned 16, it was time to sell my coin collection for a down payment on my first car. That also meant it was time for a new collection.

My new collection put me in old dumps digging for York beer bottles from the 1890s-1920. After years of rooting in dumps, bidding at auctions and selling at flea markets, I had a respectable collection and history of beer, liquor, soda and medicine bottles from the York area.

About 20 years ago I started my most exciting collection to date -- it combined attributes from my previous collecting passions into one activity. From the friends in trading baseball cards to the organizational skills in cataloging coins. From the excitement in finding a high-value Mallow Cup coin, to the research necessary for traveling to remote locations to find that allusive butterfly. To the history learned while collecting old bottles, all of these attributes have helped make canoeing my 100th river the most rewarding collection of all.

I have no regrets that my collection of rivers paddled is not something I can put in a display case or on a mantel. It's not so much a list of places visited, but more a reflection of paths taken, passions yearned for, attributes learned and goals attained. Perhaps, best of all, this achievement better prepares me for the beginning of my next collection -- genealogy research.

* * *

Heavy Load

In St. Paul, Minnesota, bank tellers became suspicious of a parking meter worker who had been coming into the bank three or four times each month for the past year with a coffee can containing \$1,000 to \$1,200 in coins.

Coin Club Meetings

Antioch, IL Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 3rd Monday of each month at Antioch Library, 757 Main St, Antioch, IL. Contact: James Koutsoures 847-395-0599.

Barron County Coin Club

Meets at 8:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the School Administration Bldg., 700 Augusta St., Rice Lake. Contact Barron County Coin Club, P.O. Box 256, Chetek, WI 54728.

Chippewa Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 1st Thursday of each month in basement of Parks Rec. Bldg., 1300 1st Ave. in Eau Claire. E-mail 54701.com/coinclub or PO Box 2140 Eau Claire, WI 54702.

Elgin IL Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 1st Wednesday at the VFW Post 1307, 1601 Weld Rd., Elgin, IL 60123. Contact Don Cerny, PO Box 561, S. Elgin, IL 60177. Ph. 847-888-1449.

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

Meets the 3rd Thursday (April-October); at the Siren Sr. Center, 23943 State Road 35, Siren, 7:00 traders; 8:00 business meeting. Contact Gary Schauls, 2702 150th St., Luck, WI 54853-3811. Ph. 715-472-2002.

Fond du Lac Coin Club

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday (May thru Sept.) at the Senior Center East 2nd Street in Fond du Lac. Contact Fond du Lac Coin Club, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

Fox Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Prime Time Club, 11150 Valley Road, Menasha.

Kenosha Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st Thursday of each month (except July & August) at 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha. Contact: Jerry Binsfeld 262-657-4653.

Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Silverbrook Middle School, 120 N. Silverbrook Drive in West Bend. Youth meeting at 6:30. Contact: Dave Hunsicker 262-338-6064.

Lake County Coin Club

Meets 7:00 the 1st Tues. each month at the Warren Township Library, O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL. (Alternate mtg. place at Gurnee Police Dept., 100 N. O'Plaine Rd.. Contact: George Efsen, 847-244-5160.

Lakeland Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 6:45 the first and third Thursday of each month at Lakeland Senior Center, Woodruff, WI.

Madison Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 2nd Monday of each month in the Community Meeting Room at Zimbrick Buick, 1601 W. Bel-tine Hwy. at Fish Hatchery intersection. Contact Tom Galway. Phone 608-238-1722.

Manitowoc Coin Club

No regular monthly meetings. An annual coin show is held in February. Contact Al Hrudka 920-775-4979.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:00 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Mayfair Mall Community Room, 2500 N. Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa (use #2 entrance, east side of mall). Contact Bruce Benoit, PO Box 210064, Milwaukee, 53221. Phone: 414-282-8128.

Nicolet Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at Stein Supper Club, 126 S. Adams in Green Bay.

Northwoods Stamp & Coin Club

Contact the club at P.O. Box 126, Rhinelander, WI 54501.

Ozaukee Coin Club

Meets 2nd Thursday at Rose Harms Legion Post, 1540 13th Ave., Grafton. (Youth mtg. 6:30; General mtg. 7:00. Contact Ozaukee Coin Club, P.O. Box 832, Cedarburg, WI 53012.

Racine Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday at Castlewood Restaurant in Sturtevant (across street from Amtrack Depot). Contact George Conrad 262-634-0833. (no July or Aug. mtg).

Rockford Area Coin Club

Contact: Rockford Area Coin Club, c/o Darrell Schultz, P.O. Box 294, Cherry Valley, IL 61016.

Sheboygan Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 every other Tuesday at Maple Lanes, 3107 S. Business Dr., in Sheboygan. Contact Sheboygan Coin Club, PO Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

South Shore Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. Roman's Parish Office, 1710 W. Bolivar Ave. in Milwaukee. Contact Walter Weis 414-384-7966.

Waukesha Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Waukesha Salvation Army offices at 445 Madison St., Waukesha. Contact Forrest Schumacher, 2300 Avalon Drive, Waukesha, WI 53186. Ph: 262-542-5990

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at Liberty Bell Coin Investments, 130 N. 3rd Ave., Wausau. (June, July, Aug. mtg 3rd Tue.) Contact Thad Streeter, 715-355-5437.

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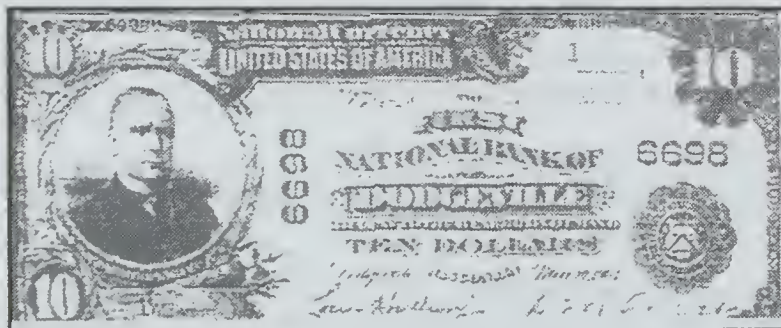
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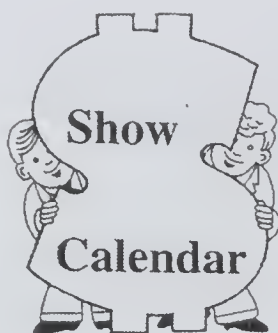
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Please send information on your upcoming show to the NOW News Editor, PO Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Include name of club, location of show, dates, hours, number of tables and your show/bourse chairman's name, address and phone.

March 2, 2008 - Madison

Madison Coin Show at Sheraton Hotel, 706 Nolan Drive, Madison. Bourse Chm. Jim Essence of Jim's Coins at Hilldale. Phone 608-233-2118.

March 7-9, 2008 - ANA

American Numismatic Association's "National Money Show in Phoenix, AZ. Contact ANA Convention Dept. 719-632-2646.

March 9, 2008 - Brookfield

Waukesha Coin Club's 39th Annual Coin Show at the American Legion Hall, 3245 N. 124 St., Brookfield, WI. Hours: 9-5 p.m. 35 tables. Admission. Bourse Chm. Tom Snyder 262-542-5990.

March 16, 2008 - Appleton

Fox Valley Coin Club's 53rd Annual Spring Coin Show at Wave Bar & Ballroom, 2350 N. Casoloma Dr., Appleton. Hours 9-4 p.m. 40 tables. Show Chm. James Bayer, PO Box 1981, Appleton, WI 54912. Phone 920-739-1089.

March 27-30, 2008 - Rosemont IL

Chicago Paper Money Expo at Crowne Plaza O'Hare, 5440 N. River Rd., Rosemont, IL Contact Kevin Foley 414-421-3484.

March 30, 2008 - Gurnee, IL

Lake County Coin Show at Warren Township High School, 500 N. O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL 45 tables. Hours: 9-3 pm. Contact: George Efsen 847-244-5160 georgeefse@att.net.

April 3-5, 2008 - Milwaukee

South Shore Coin Club's 44th Annual Show at Wyndham Hotel Airport, (formerly Four Points Sheraton) 47475 S. Howell Ave. Milwaukee. Hours: Apr. 2 2-6 pm; Apr 3. 10-6 pm; Apr. 4 10-4 pm. Contact Walter Weis 414-384-7966.

April 16-19, 2008 - CSNS

Central States 69th Anniversary Convention at Donald Stephens Convention Center. 5555 N. River Rd. Rosemont, IL Bourse Chm. Jerry Lebo 574-753-2489.

April 20, 2008 - Wausau

Wisconsin Valley Coin Show at Park Inn, 2101 N. Mountain Road, Wausau. Hours: 9-5 p.m., 45 tables. Show Chm. Thad Streeter, 5002 Tanya St., Shofield, WI 54476. Phone: 715-355-5437.

April 24-27, 2008 - Rosemont, IL

Chicago International Coin Fair at Crowne Plaza, 5440 N. River Rd., Rosemont, IL. Admission. Contact Kevin Foley 414-421-3484.

May 4, 2008 - Green Bay

Nicolet Coin Club's Spring Coin Show at Comfort Suites/Rock Garden, 1951 Bond St., Green Bay, WI. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 39 tables. Bourse Chm. Roger Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313. Phone: 920-499-7035,

May 10, 2008 - Sheboygan Falls

Sheboygan Coin Club's Coin & Stamp Show at Sheboygan Falls Municipal Hall, 375 Buffalo Street, Sheboygan Falls, WI. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 40 tables. Contact Ed Rautmann, 447 Plaza Lane, Plymouth, WI 53073. Phone: 920-893-5874

May 16-17, 2008 - NOW

NOW 48th Anniversary Show at the Old Car Show Activity Center Building in Iola, WI. Hours: Fri. 1-6; Sat. 9-6 p.m. Show Chm. Cliff Mishler 715-445-5050; Bourse Chm. Joel Edler 715-445-4080.

June 6-8, 2008 - Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention, Baltimore Convention Center, 1 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD. www.whitmanexpo.com.

June 14, 2008 - Rice Lake

Barron County Coin Show at Cedar Mall, 2900 S. Main St., Rice Lake. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse Chair: Sue Peterson, PO Box 362, Rice Lake, WI 54868.

June 21, 2008 - Rhinelander

Northwoods Stamp & Coin Club's 27th Annual Show at James Williams Middle School, 915 Acacia Lane, Rhinelander, WI. Hours: 9-5 p.m. Chm. Larry Marten, 3295 Hancock Lake Rd., Harshaw, WI 54529. Phone: 715-282-5636. Vice Chm. Bill Julian 715-277-2692.

July 10-13, 2008 - Schaumburg, IL

27th annual MidAmerica Coin Expo at Renaissance Hotel & Convention Center. Contact Kevin Foley, PO Box 573, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

July 30-Aug. 3, 2008 - ANA

ANA's 117th Anniversary World Fair of Money Convention in Baltimore, MD. Contact ANA Convention Dept. 719-632-2646. Website www.money.org.

August 24, 2008 - Kenosha

4th Annual Gateway to Wisconsin Coin Show at Kenosha Union Club, 3030 39th Avenue, Kenosha. Hours: 8:30-3:00 p.m. 30+ tables. Show contact: Jerry Binsfeld, 6040 39th Ave., Suite 7, Kenosha, WI 53142. Ph: 262-657-4653.

September 28, 2008 - Cedarburg

Ozaukee Coin Show at Circle B Recreation, 6261 Hwy. 60 (Hwy. 60 & CTH I), Cedarburg, WI. Hours: 9-4 p.m., 35 Tables. Contact John Helm, Ozaukee Coin Club, PO Box 832, Cedarburg, WI 53012. e-mail: jhelm30@wi.rr.com.

October 5, 2008 - Milwaukee

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's Annual Coin Show at the American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee, WI. Hours: 9-4 p.m., 75 tables. Bourse Chm. David Hunsicker 262-338-6064.

October 25, 2008 - Sheboygan Falls

Sheboygan Coin Club's Coin Show at Sheboygan Falls Municipal Hall, 375 Buffalo Street, Sheboygan Falls, WI. Hours: 9 - 4 p.m. 32 tables. Show contact Ed Rautmann Phone: 920-893-5874.

October 26, 2008 - Elgin, IL

Elgin Coin Club's 46th Coin Show at V.F.W. Post 1307, 1601 Weld Rd., Elgin, IL. Hours: 9-3 p.m. 32 tables. Contact: Don Cerny, PO Box 561, So. Elgin, IL 60177. Ph: 1-847-888-1449.

November 1, 2008 - Kenosha

50th Annual Kenosha Coin Show at Kenosha Union Club, 3030 39th Avenue, Kenosha, WI Hours: 8:30-

3:30 p.m. 30-45 tables. Contact: Jerry Binsfeld, 6040 39th Ave., Suite #7, Kenosha, WI 53142-7009. Phone: 262-657-4653.

November 21-23, 2008 - Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention, Baltimore Convention Center, 1 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD. www.whitmanexpo.com.

November 28-30, 2008 - Dearborn MI

Michigan State Numismatic Society's 53rd Anniversary Thanksgiving Convention. Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn. Contact Brian Mainar 734-453-0504.

February 15, 2009 - Oshkosh

Wisconsin Coin Expos LLC 26th Annual Coin Show at Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 North Main St., Oshkosh, WI. Hours: 9-5 p.m. Contact Randy Miller, PO Box 254 Oshkosh, WI 54903. Ph: 920-231-6161.

March 8, 2009 - Brookfield

Waukesha Coin Show at the American Legion Post, 3245 N. 124 St., Brookfield, WI. Show contact: Tom Snyder 262-542-5990.

March 13-15, 2009 - Portland, OR

ANA's National Money Show in Portland, OR. Contact ANA Convention Dept. 719-632-2646.

March 27-29, 2009 - Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention, Baltimore Convention Center, 1 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD www.whitmanexpo.com.

April 2-4, 2009 - Milwaukee

South Shore Coin Club's 45th Annual Show at Wyndham Hotel Airport, 4747 S. Howell Avenue, Milwaukee. Hours: Apr. 2, 2-7 p.m.; Apr. 3 10-6 p.m.; Apr. 4 10-4 p.m.. 70 tables. Contact Walter Weis 414-384-7966.

April 29-May 2, 2009 - Central States

70th Anniversary CSNS Convention at Duke Energy Center, Cincinnati OH. Contact Jerry Lebo Phone 574-753-2489.

June 12-14, 2009 - Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention, Baltimore Convention Center, 1 S. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD. www.whitmanexpo.com.

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